

(No Model.)

W. M. GEYER.
PUZZLE.

No. 586,683.

Patented July 20, 1897.

Fig. 1.

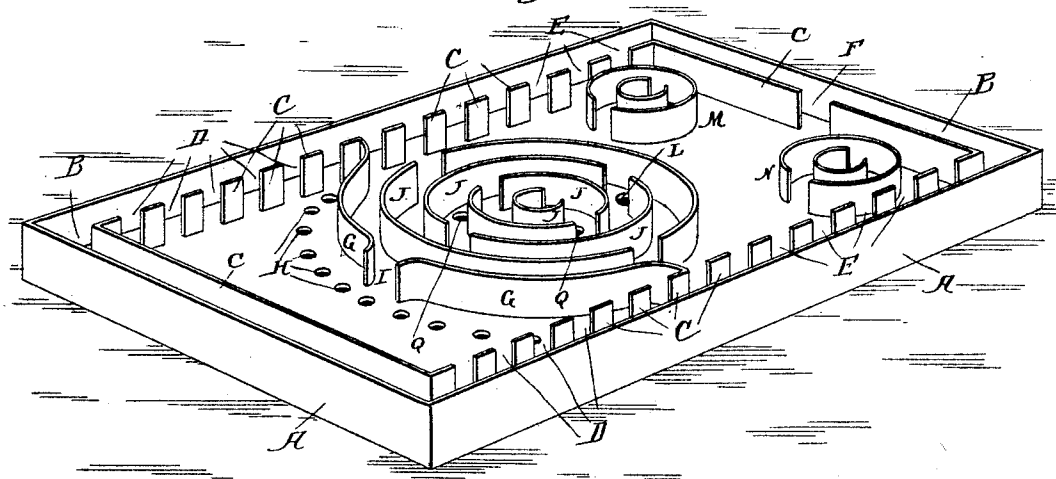
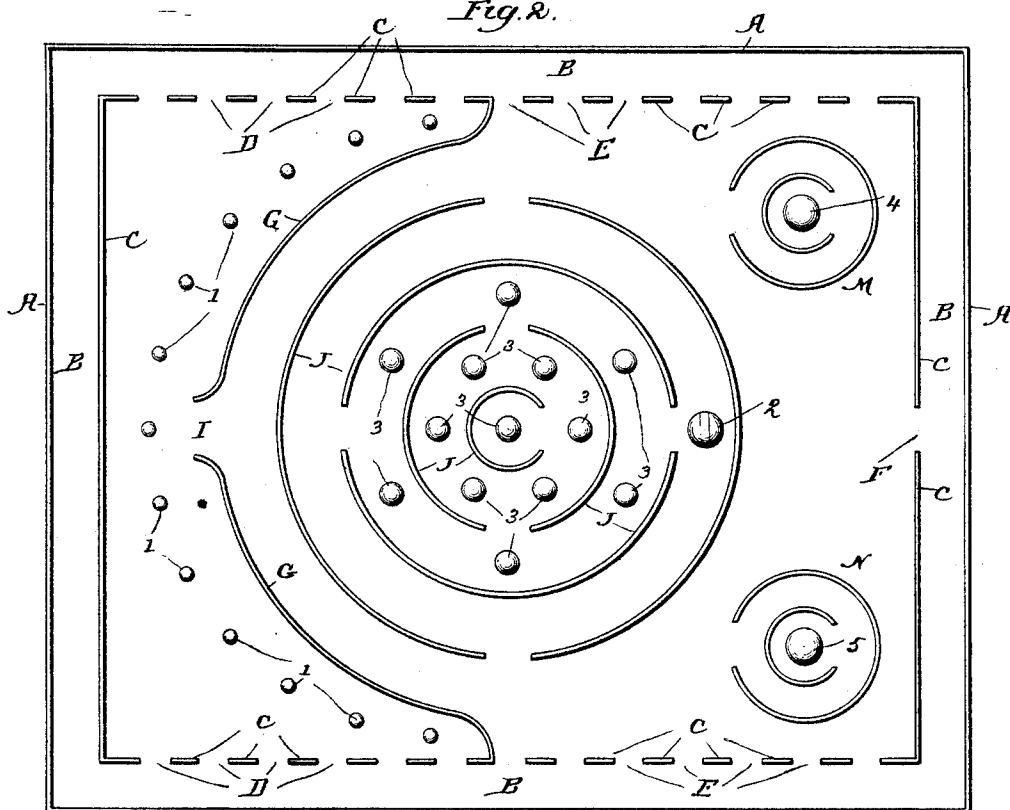


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

H. B. Hallock.

A. Williamson

Inventor:

William M. Geyer.

by Geo. H. Holgate

Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. GEYER, OF NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 586,683, dated July 20, 1897.

Application filed September 19, 1896. Serial No. 606,365. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM M. GEYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norristown, in the county of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Puzzles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to a new, amusing, and instructive puzzle, and has for its object to provide such a device which will render endless amusement to both old and young as well as the instruction and training for both the eye and the hand.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth, and then specifically designated by the claim.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same, I will describe its construction and operation in detail, referring to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective of the embodiment of my improved game; Fig. 2, a plan view thereof, the balls being shown in their several positions.

In carrying out this invention I provide a tray A, which is preferably of rectangular shape and of such a depth as to preclude the possibility of the balls which are used therein from falling out of the same. Within this tray is formed an outer court B by the partitions C, which run parallel with the sides of the tray, as clearly shown. Through the side lengths of this partition are formed thirteen openings, as indicated at D and E, for the purpose hereinafter set forth. A similar opening F is formed in the two partitions and is preferably somewhat wider than the first-named openings.

Two partitions G of compound curvature divide the inner court into two sections, the rear section being smaller than the forward section and having formed upon the bottom thereof thirteen depressions H for the retention of the like number of balls, (indicated in Fig. 2 by 1,) and passage-way between the two sections of the inner court is formed at I by the partitions G in meeting at this point. The forward section of the

inner court has located therein a series of circular partitions J, with openings there-through, so as to produce a run-around within the first partition. Upon the bottom thereof is formed a depression L for the reception and retention of the ball 2, which is considerably larger than balls 1. Within the remaining partitions J are located the depressions Q, which are thirteen in number, and for the reception and retention of the balls 3. Again, within the forward section of the inner court and in the opposite corners thereof are located two run-arounds M and N, which are formed by circular partitions and depressions located in the center of these run-arounds. While the partitions are here shown as having the openings from top to bottom, it is obvious that these openings may be archways, thus adding strength to said partitions.

From this description the operation of the puzzle, which I call "The Thirteen Hoodoo Puzzle," will be obviously as follows: The puzzle represents the Convention Hall at St. Louis, with thirteen exits on each side. In the rear end will be found a picture-gallery for the thirteen scattered pictures, which are represented by the smallest balls 1. The center run-around is the place for the thirteen delegates represented by the thirteen balls 3. The run-arounds M and N are for the President and Vice-President, respectively, represented by the balls 4 and 5, and ball 2 represents the chairman of the convention. After the chairman has placed the scattered pictures, seated all the delegates, the President and Vice-President, he finally takes his own seat, which is in front of the delegates.

The object of the game is, therefore, to put all the balls in the rear, then hold the tray in the two hands with the rear court toward you, incline the box, thus causing the ball to roll in the outer court and allowing the proper balls to enter the proper places—as, for instance, the balls 1 to enter through the openings D, the balls 3 through the openings E, and the balls 4 and 5 through openings F, as also the balls 2. This will require much patience and effort in order to gain sufficient practice both of eye and hand to manipulate the tray so as to bring about the desired re-

sult, thus pleasantly consuming considerable length of time, while at the same time instructing and amusing both old and young.

After the puzzle has been once solved it will
5 be as difficult of solution as before, so that the interest therein will not flag, though it is used indefinitely.

The cost of manufacture of a puzzle made in accordance with my improvement is small,
10 since the tray may be made of paper or pasteboard, as well as the several partitions thereof all may be provided with a cover for the retention of the balls when shipping or storing.

Having thus fully described my invention,
15 what I claim as new and useful is—

In a puzzle, a rectangular tray, partitions running parallel with the outer wall, said partitions having thirteen openings formed in
two parallel sides, one of the end partitions
20 having a single opening formed therein of greater width than the first-named openings, a run-around formed in the center of the tray, said run-around being composed of circular partitions arranged concentrically and each

partition having two openings formed therein
at diametrically opposite points so that no
two openings register, run-arounds formed in
the two corners on the inner court, two curved
partitions extending from each side around
the central run-around, said partitions ter-
minating a short distance from each other
leaving an opening, the bottom of the tray
having thirteen depressions formed around
the last two partitions, thirteen larger de-
pressions formed in the central run-around
3 and still larger depressions formed in the corner run-arounds and the outer court of the
central run-around three series of balls of different sizes adapted to fit in the depressions
of corresponding size, substantially as de-
scribed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM M. GEYER.

Witnesses:

FLORENCE E. SHAW,
A. B. SEIPT.